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Patent Attorney Docket No. 23534-0007-1600/2900

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
F. Abel Ponce de Leon et al ) Group Art Unit: 1633  
Application No. 09/127,624 ) Examiner: D. Clark  
Filed: August 3, 1998 )  
For: PROLONGED CULTURING OF AVIAN )  
(CHICKEN) PRIMORDIAL GERM CELLS )  
(PGCs) USING SPECIFIC GROWTH )  
FACTORS, USE THEREOF TO PRODUCE )  
CHIMERIC AVIANS (CHICKENS) )

**REPLY TO THE OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37**  
**C.F.R. §1.112**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action dated May 16, 2000. Kindly enter the following remarks and amendments in response thereto prior to further examination:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 10-13, 15, 16, 18-20 and 22-28 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for culturing avian primordial germ cells comprising maintaining said avian primordial germ cells for periods of at least fourteen days in tissue culture comprising the following steps:

- (i) isolating a pure population of primordial germ cells from a desired avian; and
- (ii) culturing said isolated, pure population of primordial germ cells (PGCs) in a culture medium comprising [containing at least the following] growth factors [contained] in amounts sufficient to maintain said PGCs for at least fourteen days in tissue culture[:
  - (1) leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF),
  - (2) basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF),
  - (3) stem cell factor (SCF) and